Claims

1) Attenuated live parasite of the phylum Apicomplexa or the family of Trypanosomatidae, characterised in that said parasite comprises a ribosomal protein gene under the control of an inducible promoter.

2) Attenuated live parasite according to claim 1, characterised in that said parasite belongs to the Coccidia, the Piroplasmida or the Haemosporida.

3) Attenuated live parasite according to claim 2, characterised in that said parasite belongs to the family of the Eimeridiidae, Cryptosporidiidae or Sarcocystidae.

4) Attenuated live parasite according to claim 3, characterised in that said parasite belongs to the genus Eimeria, Cryptosporidium, Toxoplasma, Sarcocystis or Neospora.

5) Attenuated live parasite according to claim 2, characterised in that said parasite belongs to the family of the Babesiidae or the Theileriidae.

6) Attenuated live parasite according to claim 5, characterised in that said parasite belongs to the genus Babesia or Theileria.

7) Attenuated live parasite according to claim 2, characterised in that said parasite belongs to the genus Plasmodium.

8) Attenuated live parasite according to claim 1, characterised in that said parasite belongs to the genus Trypanosoma or the genus Leishmania

9) Attenuated live parasite according to claims 1-8, characterised in that said inducible promoter is based upon an operator site and a repressor protein capable of reversibly binding said operator site.

10) Attenuated live parasite according to claims 1-9, characterised in that said inducible promoter is inducible by antibiotics.

11) Attenuated live parasite according to claim 10, characterised in that said inducible promoter is inducible by tetracycline or anhydrotetracyclin, or a derivative thereof.

12) Attenuated live parasite according to claim 11, characterised in that a tetR-system is used as the inducible promoter.

13) Attenuated live parasite according to claims 1-12, characterised in that said ribosomal protein gene is the gene encoding L9, S3, plastid-S9 or S13, preferably L9, S3, plastid-S9 or S13 of *Toxoplasma gondii*.

14) Attenuated live parasite according to claims 1-13 for use in a vaccine.

15) Vaccine for combating parasitic infection characterised in that said vaccine comprises a live attenuated parasite according to claims 1-13 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

16) Use of an attenuated live parasite according to claims 1-13 for the manufacture of a vaccine for combating infection caused by a parasite of the phylum Apicomplexa or the family of Trypanosomatidae.

17) Method for the production of a vaccine according to claim 15, said method comprising the mixing of a live attenuated parasite according to claims 1-13 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

18) DNA-fragment encoding a tet-repressor fusion protein comprising the tet-repressor protein and a heterologous protein or a part thereof, said heterologous protein or a part thereof being fused to the N-terminal side of the tet-repressor protein, the monomeric form of said fusion protein having a molecular weight of less than 60 kD and being free of GPI-anchors, secretion/excretion signals and trans-membrane regions.

19) Attenuated live parasite according to claims 1-13, characterised in that said parasite comprises the tet-operator site and a DNA fragment encoding a tet-repressor fusion protein according to claim 18.

20) Attenuated live parasite according to claim 19, characterised in that said parasite comprises two or more tet-operator sites.